

Dear Conservationist,

Please find enclosed an application package from the South Carolina Conservation Bank. This application will allow you to apply for funding for your proposal and will also give the Bank the required information to make a decision as to whether your proposal is acceptable. Please note that the application is in several sections. You should fill them out as completely as possible.

Many of the requirements of this application are statutory in nature. The Code Sections applicable to these requirements have been included for your information. Additionally, the Bank recognizes that a number of requirements of this statute, before any acceptance or disbursement of funds can be made, are very expensive and difficult to obtain. For that reason, several of these requirements have been placed at the back of the process so that you will have some indication of favorability prior to having to meet these requirements.

Funding of proposals will be based on the amount of funding available and the priority of the proposals as set by the Board in accordance with the statutory criteria. Non- acceptance of your proposal does not mean it is not a good proposal. Nor does non-acceptance under one budget cycle preclude your proposal from being re-submitted.

We appreciate your interest and commitment to conservation and look forward to working with you to keep South Carolina a special place. If we can be of any help in this process or if you need additional information please feel free to contact us.

**Application for Funding
South Carolina Conservation Bank**

I. General Information: Section One:

Acquisition type: ____ Fee Simple ____ Conservation Easement ____ Loan

Other_____

Landowner's Name:_____

Mailing Address:_____

Daytime Telephone:_____

Eligible Trust Fund Recipient Seeking Funding

Name of Organization:_____

Authorized Agent Name:_____

Mailing Address:_____

Daytime Telephone:_____

II. Property Information

Legal Description: County_____

Tax Map #_____

Assessor's Plat and Lot Numbers:_____

Deed Reference (Book and Page Number)_____

Current local zoning status where property is located_____

Location on County Map (attach)

Brief description of property including:

- a. Total acres
- b. Total forested
- c. Total cleared/open
- d. Total wetlands
- e. Creeks or rivers
- f. Please include any surveys, USGS maps, directions, county locator map, or any other pertinent information.

III. Miscellaneous Information:

- a. Who is the party responsible for managing this land? (Code Sec. 48-59-70)

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

- b. Who is responsible for enforcing any conservation easements or other restrictions on this property? (Code Sec. 48-59-70)

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

IV. Names and addresses of adjoining landowners (attach list)

Signature of Eligible Trust Fund Recipient (Applicant)

Date

For Office Use Only

Received By: _____

Application Number: _____

Date: _____

General Information: Section Two-To be filled out by the landowner.

1. Does this land contain property or interest in property that has been down-zoned within three years of the date of this application?
(Code Sec.48-59-70,O-1)

_____yes _____no _____not applicable

2. Has the qualified entity or applicant seeking funding notified you in writing:
(S.C. Code Sec.48-59-70,B-1,B-2)

- a. That interests in land purchased with trust funds result in a permanent conveyance of such interests from the landowner to the eligible trust fund.

_____yes _____no

- b. That it may be in the landowner's best interests to retain independent legal counsel, appraisals, and other professional advice.

_____yes _____no

South Carolina Conservation Bank—Landowner Inspection Consent Agreement.

I, _____, as the landowner or landowner's agent agree to allow inspection, or appraisal if necessary, of the property being offered under the South Carolina Conservation Bank Act. I agree to allow authorized or designated agent or staff to inspect this property as may be required. Reasonable notice of inspection will be given.

Signature of Landowner/Agent

Date

General Information: Section Three - To be filled out by the eligible trust fund recipient seeking funding (Applicant)

1. Organization Name/Contact

Contact Person _____
Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Please attach certification that this is a charitable not-for-profit corporation or trust authorized to do business in this state; whose principal activity is the acquisition and management of land for conservation or historic purposes and which has tax-exempt status as a public charity under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or Certification that the applicant is an otherwise qualified entity under the S.C. Conservation Bank Act.(Code Sec.48-59-30,4-c)

2. How will you be able to complete the project and acquire the interests in the proposed lands? (Code Sec.48-59-70,H-1)

3. How many total acres of lands or projects have you preserved in this state? (Code Sec.48-59-70, H-2)

4. Briefly describe the lands your organization has preserved in this state, including their size, location and method of preservation. Note: this section need not be complied with for specific preserved lands if the privacy or proprietary interests of the owners of such preserved lands would be violated.)(Code Sec.48-59-70, H-3)

5. Has the trust fund recipients notified the owner of the land that is the subject of the trust fund grant or loan of the following in writing? (Code Sec.48-59-70,B-1,B-2)

a. That interests in land purchased with trust funds result in a permanent conveyance of such interests in land from the landowner to the eligible trust fund recipient or it assignees.

b. That it may be in the landowner's interest to retain independent legal counsel, appraisals and other professional advice.

Attach notarized copy. **Note:** Applications not having affirmation that the notice requirement of this section has been met will not be considered for funding requests.

6. Does the eligible trust recipient or the landowner have a general summarized land management plan for this proposal? Please attach.(Code Sec. 48-59-70, G1-8). **Note:** A statement addressing these items is required prior to closing.

_____ yes

_____ no

7. Explain how the eligible trust fund recipient intends to enforce the easement restrictions on this proposal. (Code Sec.48-59-70,G-6,7 and H). Attach additional sheet if necessary.

8. If the eligible trust fund recipient uses SCCB funding to acquire Fee Simple title to land, does it understand and agree that public access and use of the land must be permitted, subject to those rules and regulations that are consistent with the conservation purposes for which the land was acquired. (Code Sec.48-59-80,K)

_____ yes

_____ no

9. Does the eligible trust fund recipient agree that trust funds may only be used for the acquisition of interests in land including closing costs and not for management, planning, staffing, or any costs not associated with the purchase of interests in lands? (Code Sec. 48-59-110).

_____ yes _____ no

10. Does the eligible trust fund recipient have reasonable documentation to support this request? Please attach. The proposal will not be considered without adequate substantiation of estimated Fair Market Value **Note:** However, a qualified and competent appraisal establishing fair market value and/or the value of the proposed easement will subsequently be required prior to closing. (Code Sec.48-59-70,M)

_____ yes _____ no

11. What is the amount of support sought for this proposal?

\$ _____

12. What is the total transaction value? \$ _____

13. Explain how this proposal will satisfy the criteria listed in Sections Four, Five, and Six of the ensuing pages.(Code Sec. 48-59-70,G)
(Please attach a narrative of what your intended plans are and how you plan to accomplish them.)

Signature of Authorized Agent for Eligible Trust Fund Recipient (Applicant)

Notary Signature

My commission expires: _____

Section Four– Conservation Criteria
Code Section 48-59-70 Sec. C and D
Information to be considered in filling out the application

1. The extent to which the proposal conserves unique or important wildlife habitat.

Wildlife Habitat Values: The habitat potential of a parcel for all types of wildlife and fisheries species including those hunted and fished. For Example__Parcel contains:

- ☐ excellent habitat or habitat potential for game species including black bear, white-tailed deer, wild turkey, waterfowl, bobwhite quail and others.
- ☐ excellent habitat or habitat potential for game fish including cold-water trout, black bass, sunfish and others.
- ☐ significant populations of resident species.
- ☐ good or excellent habitat or habitat potential for forest inhabiting birds.
- ☐ good or excellent habitat or habitat potential for significant populations of forest inhabiting mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates.
- ☐ areas for resting and feeding of migratory species.
- ☐ exhibits connective habitats, corridors, habitat linkages and areas that reduce biological isolation.
- ☐ other.

2. The extent that proposal conserves rare or endangered species.

Threatened and Endangered Species: The parcel contains populations or suitable habitats of rare, threatened or endangered species of fish, wildlife or plants. For example__parcel contains:

- ☐ known occurrences of rare, threatened or endangered species of animals or plants.
- ☐ Parcel is within close proximity to a site with known occurrences of species of concern.
- ☐ habitats that are suitable for reoccupation of such species.
- ☐ habitats that often harbor such species.
- ☐ other

3. The extent that the proposal conserves a relatively undisturbed or outstanding example of an ecosystem indigenous to South Carolina. For example__parcel contains:

☐ Carolina Bay
☐ *Spartina* Marshlands
☐ other

4. The extent the parcel conserves riparian habitats, wetlands, water quality, watersheds of significant ecological value, critical aquifer recharge areas, estuaries, bays or beaches.

Riparian and Hydrologic Values: The parcel contains wetlands that have ecological values including unique habitats, flood control, sediment filtration, and contaminant filtration. For example__Parcel:

☐ is situated on a river, stream or marine shore.
☐ has extensive river, stream or marine shoreline.
☐ I includes the 100-year floodplain.
☐ includes a designated scenic river, stream or wetland.
☐ contains minimum 50-foot buffer of trees along shorelines as a sediment buffer.
☐ contains ecologically significant wetlands such as isolated bays, bogs, depression meadows and ponds.
☐ is adjacent to or near other protected wetlands.
☐ includes the surface watershed or the ground water aquifer of a public water supply.
☐ other

5. The extent the parcel has for conserving outstanding geologic features. For example__Parcel:

☐ contains mountains.
☐ contains significant rock formations/waterfalls.
☐ contains significant earth strata.
☐ contains limestone bluff
☐ other

6. The extent to which the parcel conserves a site of unique historical or archeological significance.

Cultural and Historic Resources: The parcel contains known or likely sites of significant historic or cultural value. For example __parcel:

- ☐ contains cultural resources such as a historic forest, mill site, or tar kiln.
- ☐ contains other historic or archaeological resources such as Native American sites, historic structures or historic sites
- ☐ other

7. The extent the parcel conserves an area of critical forestlands, farmlands, or wetlands. For example __parcel has:

- ☐ the soil productivity and natural vegetative community to produce high quality timber, pulpwood and other forest products.
- ☐ growing timber stock in place.
- ☐ diverse timber age and type.
- ☐ prime soils
- ☐ is agriculturally unique
- ☐ contains unique wetlands
- ☐ other

8. The extent the parcel conserves an area of forestlands or farmlands which are located on prime soils, in microclimates or have strategic geographical significances.

The potential of a parcel to produce forest products including productivity, accessibility, vegetative community, standing timber, management history and location. For example __parcel:

- ☐ has the soil productivity and natural vegetative community to produce high quality timber, pulpwood, forest and agricultural commodities.
- ☐ has growing timber stock in place.
- ☐ has diverse timber age and type.
- ☐ has growing crops in place.
- ☐ other

9. The extent that the parcel conserves an area for public recreation, greenways, or parkland.

Public Recreation Potential: The potential of a parcel to provide the public with outdoor recreational potential including hunting, fishing, hiking, birding, horseback riding, wildlife observation, and other types of recreation. For example__Parcel has:

- ☐ externally accessible to the public by automobile and internally accessible by vehicle, foot, boat or bicycle. The public must be able to reach the tract by auto and transit the tract reasonably under most environmental conditions.
- ☐ the potential for hiking, cycling and horseback riding trails.
- ☐ potential water-based recreational value.
- ☐ unique habitat, geological formation, wildlife population or other special recreational attraction.
- ☐ potential for inclusion in the Wildlife Management Area Program.
- ☐ other

10. The extent the parcel conserves a larger area or ecosystem already containing protected lands or as a connection between natural habitats or open space that are already protected. For example__Parcel:

- ☐ adjoins or is close to a state park.
- ☐ adjoins or is close to a state or federal forest or refuge.
- ☐ borders on other protected and managed lands.
- ☐ borders a scenic highway or river.
- ☐ other

11. The extent that the parcel conserves a significant acreage. Parcel contains:

- ☐ 100-500 acres
- ☐ 501-1,000 acres
- ☐ 1,001-5,000 acres
- ☐ 5,001-10,000 acres
- ☐ over 10,000 acres
- ☐ other

12. The extent the parcel presents a unique opportunity to accomplish one or more of the criteria in Items 1-11, where the same or a similar opportunity is unlikely to present itself in the future. For example ___ Parcel:

- ___ is in danger of conversion to non-traditional use within 10 years.
- ___ is currently for sale on the open market.
- ___ may remain as is, but will become further subdivided within 10 years.
- ___ is located where infrastructure extensions and improvements are imminent.
- ___ may remain as is, but is in danger of non-sustainable management.
- ___ other

Section Five- Financial Criteria
Code Section 48-59-70 Section E
Information to be considered in filling out the application

1. How does the proposal present a unique value opportunity in that it protects land at a reasonable cost? Parcel:

___ is available at a low cost per acre.

___ is available from a willing seller at a reasonable price.

2. How does the proposal leverage trust funds by including funding or in-kind assets or services from other governmental sources?

___ Have matching funds of any kind or services-in-kind been applied for; have any been received; in what amount or percentage of this proposal from any other governmental source?

Explain:

3. How does the proposal leverage trust funds by including funding or in-kind assets or services from private or non-profit sources, or charitable donations of land or conservation easements?

___ Have matching funds of any kind been applied for; have any been received; in what amount or percent of its proposal from private or non-profit sources?

Explain:

4. How does the proposal leverage trust funds by purchasing conservation easements that preserve land at a cost that is low, relative to the fair market value of the fee simple title of the land preserves?

___ Is the proposal a bargain sale?

___ Is the parcel available with match funding donated by the current owner?

If so, in what amount/percent? _____

Explain:

5. Has any other conservation incentives and means of conservation such as donated, conservation easements or participation in other governmental programs have been explored, applied for, secured, or exhausted?

Explain:

Section Six– Public Access
Code Section 48-59-70 Section F
Information to be considered in filling out the application

1. To what extent does the proposal provide public access for hunting, fishing, outdoor recreational activities, and other forms of public access.

A.____ No public access is proposed.

B.____ Limited public access is proposed such as:

Hunting, fishing, canoeing, biking, hiking, bird watching, educational opportunities for scientific and biological research and habitat management, Youth Hunts, Handicapped Hunters, Make A Wish, and other outdoor activities.

1. Minimal access: Small groups or specific individuals with few allowed activities on few days.
2. Moderate access: Small or medium sized groups with access many times per year with several allowed activities.
3. High access: General public access all year or many days with several activities allowed.
4. Very high access: General public access year round with many Activities allowed.